

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1 and 7-11 are amended by this response.

Claims 2 - 5 have been previously amended.

Claim 6 is cancelled by this response.

New claim 12 is added by this response.

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1. (Currently Amended) A device for  
detecting the position of a selector lever, in which the selector  
lever is connected to a device that emits a signal to an  
evaluation device in a desired position of the selector lever,  
wherein the selector lever (1) is connected to a first diaphragm  
~~(2, 3)~~ (2) and a second diaphragm (3), said first and second  
diaphragms (2, 3) arranged in the a beam path between an optical  
transmitter (18) and an optical receiver (9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14),  
✓ the diaphragm (2, 3), which follows movement of the selector  
lever (1), being optically transparent in the desired position of  
the selector lever (1), as a result of which the optical receiver  
(9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14) receives the signal from the optical  
transmitter (18) and transmits it to the evaluation device (15),  
wherein there is one said diaphragm (2, 3) for each direction of  
motion of the selector lever (1).

2. (previously amended) The device as  
claimed in claim 1, wherein there is a said optical receiver (9,  
10, 11, 12, 13, 14) for each position of the selector lever (1)  
to be determined, and an opening (5, 6, 7) in the <sup>ea</sup> ~~diaphragm~~ (2,  
<sup>(5)</sup>  
*which  
exists on*

3) is moved over the optical receivers (9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14) when the selector lever (1) is moved.

3. (previously amended) The device as claimed in claim 2, wherein the optical receivers (9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14) are arranged in a fixed manner on a carrier element (8) *b3* in accordance with sequence of motion of the selector lever (1).

4. (previously amended) The device as claimed in claim 3, wherein the evaluation device (15) connected to the optical receivers (9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14) is arranged on said carrier element (8).

5. (previously amended) The device as claimed in claim 3, wherein at least one said optical transmitter (18) is arranged on the carrier element (8), an optical signal of which is deviatable onto the diaphragm (2, 3) by a light guide. *at perch only one claim*

Claim 6 (Cancelled)

4  
7. (Currently Amended) The device as claimed in claim 6 1, wherein the diaphragms (2, 3) are movable in mechanical isolation from one another.

*B3, L*  
*and*  
<sup>9</sup> 8. (Currently Amended) The device as claimed in claim 7, wherein the second of ~~said diaphragms~~ diaphragm (3), follows the selector lever (1) in an approximately vertical direction (y), and has two optically transparent openings (6, 7), vertical movement of the selector lever (1) being converted into a circular-arc-like movement of the diaphragm (3).

<sup>6</sup> 9. (Currently Amended) The device as claimed in claim 5, wherein the light guide covers is provided to cover an extended area to ensure uniform distribution of the optical signal over the diaphragms first and second diaphragms (2, 3).

*initial*  
*initial*  
10. (Currently Amended) The A device as claimed in claim 2, for detecting the position of a selector lever, in which the selector lever is connected to a device that emits a signal to an evaluation device in a desired position of the selector lever, wherein the selector lever (1) is connected to first diaphragm (2) and a second diaphragm (3), said first and second diaphragms (2,3) arranged in a beam path between an optical transmitter (18) and an optical receiver (9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14), the diaphragm (2, 3), which follows movement of the selector lever (1), being optically transparent in the desired position of the selector lever (1), as a result of which the optical receiver (9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14) receives the signal from the optical transmitter (18) and transmits it to the evaluation device (15),

wherein there is a said optical receiver

(9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14) for each position of the selector lever

✓ (1) to be determined, and an opening (5, 6, 7) in the diaphragm

(2, 3) is moved over the optical receivers (9, 10, 11, 12, 13,

14) when the selector lever (1) is moved, and

*B3  
cont'd*

*which  
is the  
fact*

wherein there is one said diaphragm (2,

3) for each direction of motion of the selector lever (1).

*7*

11. (Currently Amended) The device as

claimed in claim 5, wherein there is one said diaphragm (2, 3)

for each direction of motion of the selector lever (1), the

diaphragms (2, 3) are movable in mechanical isolation from one

another, the second of said diaphragms (3) follows the selector

lever (1) in an approximately vertical direction (y) and has two

optically transparent said openings (6, 7), vertical movement of

the selector lever (1) being converted into a circular-arc like

movement of the diaphragm (3), and the light guide covers an

extended area to ensure uniform distribution of the optical

signal over the diaphragms (2, 3).

*11*

12. (New) A device for detecting the

position of a selector lever, in which the selector lever is

connected to a device that emits a signal to an evaluation device

in a desired position of the selector lever, wherein the selector

lever (1) is connected to first diaphragm (2) and a second

diaphragm (3), said first and second diaphragms (2,3) arranged in

the beam path between an optical transmitter (18) and an optical

receiver (9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14), the diaphragm (2, 3), which

*b3, 1*  
*and*

follows movement of the selector lever (1), being optically transparent in the desired position of the selector lever (1), as a result of which the optical receiver (9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14) receives the signal from the optical transmitter (18) and transmits it to the evaluation device (15),

wherein there is a said optical receiver (9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14) for each position of the selector lever (1) to be determined, and an opening (5, 6, 7) in the diaphragm (2, 3) is moved over the optical receivers (9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14) when the selector lever (1) is moved,

*which on  
each*

wherein the optical receivers (9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14) are arranged in a fixed manner on a carrier element (8) in accordance with sequence of motion of the selector lever (1), and

wherein there is one said diaphragm (2, 3) for each direction of motion of the selector lever (1), the diaphragms (2, 3) are movable in mechanical isolation from one another, the second of said diaphragms (3) follows the selector lever (1) in an approximately vertical direction (y) and has two optically transparent said openings (6, 7), vertical movement of the selector lever (1) being converted into a circular-arc like movement of the diaphragm (3), and the light guide is provided to cover an extended area to ensure uniform distribution of the optical signal over the diaphragms (2, 3).

*LA*